



General
Services
Administration

National Archives
and
Records Service Washington, DC 20408

May 15, 1979

Mr. John R. Woods, II
538 Ironton Court
Aurora, CO 80010

Dear Mr. Woods:

Thank you for your letter of May 5, 1979, concerning the assassination of President Kennedy.

The following is in reference to the three points made in your letter:

- (1) Mrs. Lincoln was not subject to the control of the National Archives or the Kennedy Library while she was working on President Kennedy's papers. She was not an employee of any part of the National Archives and Records Service, which includes the Office of the National Archives and the Kennedy Library.
- (2) Senator Robert F. Kennedy's letter of April 22, 1965, to Admiral Burkley indicates that Senator Kennedy intended for Mrs. Lincoln to act as his agent in accepting the autopsy materials.
- (3) From President Washington's administration until 1974 Presidential records and related historical materials were treated as the property of the President or of his estate. It was pursuant to this practice that the autopsy materials were turned over to Senator Kennedy by Admiral Burkley in accordance with the request in Senator Kennedy's letter.

Sincerely,

Jane F. Smith
(MISS) JANE F. SMITH
Director
Civil Archives Division